

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 02366 301429Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 SAJ-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 SR-02

ORM-01 IO-10 /101 W

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R 300925Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2917

INFO USEC BRUSSELS POUCH

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E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: EGEN RO

SUBJ: PATAN'S VIEWS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES

1. AT CEAUSESCU'S MAY 29 RECEPTION FOR IPU DELEGATIONS
EMBOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS RANGE OF BILATERAL AND
MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH MINFORTRADE PATAN
WHICH SUMMARIZED BELOW.

2. TRADE AGREEMENT. PATAN SAID HE WAS FOLLOWING VERY CLOSELY
CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY OF THE US-ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT.
RECENTLY THERE HAD BEEN SOME POSITIVE SIGNS; RIBICOFF AND
JACKSON SEEMED TO BE TAKING MODERATE POSITIONS. BUT HE
IMPLIED HE WAS STILL CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE PITFALLS AND
EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS THAT EMIGRATION HAD GOTTEN TIED INTO
THE TRADE AGREEMENT PACKAGE. HE MADE CLEAR HE FEELS THAT
EMIGRATION OF JEWS, NOT DIVIDED FAMILIES, IS PRINCIPAL SOURCE
OF DIFFICULTY. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT DIVIDED FAMILIES
MATTER SHOULD NOT BE LOST SIGHT OF; CONGRESSMEN WHO HAD
SUCH CASES IN THEIR CONSTITUENCIES COULD BE EXPECTED TO
BRING THEM UP DURING TRADE AGREEMENT APPROVAL PROCESS. WE
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PAGE 02 BUCHAR 02366 301429Z

REMAINED OPTIMISTIC, BUT IT SEEMED CLEAR FROM THE DEBATE ON

HILL SO FAR THAT SOME SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN WERE CLEARLY WAITING FOR PROGRESS ON EMIGRATION ISSUE BEFORE THEY WOULD COMMIT THEMSELVES TO POSITIVE VOTE. PATAN SAID HE THOUGHT NOT ENOUGH CREDIT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO ROMANIA FOR GOING THROUGH WITH THE TRADE AGREEMENT IN FIRST PLACE, WHEN "OTHERS" HAD SPURNED IT. DECISION HAD BEEN MADE IN FACE OF SOME INTERNAL OPPOSITION WITHIN ROMANIAN LEADERSHIP, AND IT WAS OBVIOUSLY A STEP INVOLVING SOME RISK.

3. BOEING. PATAN SAID TEHNOIMPORT HAD SIGNED A LETTER OF INTENT TO BUY BOEING AIRCRAFT, CONDITIONED ON APPROVAL OF MFN. NOW ROMANIA HAD PIECE OF PAPER THAT COULD BE USED TO ENCOURAGE TRADE AGREEMENT APPROVAL, AND HE EXPECTED BOEING TO CARRY OUT ITS PROMISE TO WORK FOR PASSAGE. HE SAID INTEREST IN 707S WAS SERIOUS, NOT JUST A GAMBIT.

4. EC. EMBOFF ASKED IF ROMANIA MIGHT FOLLOW CHINA'S LEAD IN ESTABLISHING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH EC. PATAN SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT SUCH A STEP TO BE TAKEN; RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE ESTABLISHED THROUGH CEMA, BUT OF COURSE IT WOULD TAKE A VERY GENERAL FORM, EXCLUDING COMMERCIAL MATTERS, FOR WHICH CEMA DID NOT HAVE COMPETENCE. THE WHOLE MATTER WAS NATURALLY SUBJECT TO DEBATE AND DISAGREEMENT, WITH DIFFERENT PARTIES EXPRESSING DIFFERENT VIEWS. HIS IMPLICATION WAS THAT SOME FAIRLY INNOCUOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH EC WOULD BE STRUCTURED THROUGH CEMA, BUT THAT PRACTICAL COMMERCIAL AND TRADE ISSUES WOULD BE HANDLED BILATERALLY, WITHOUT, HOWEVER, ROMANIA EXTENDING POLITICAL RECOGNITION TO EC AT THIS STAGE.

5. FOKKER-VFW 614. PATAN CONFIRMED THAT NDOTIATIONS ON 614 WERE MOVING AHEAD. AIRCRAFT WOULD, ACCORDING MINISTER, BE SOLELY FOR INTERNAL USE.

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